

PENNSYLVANIA IMPORTANT MAMMAL AREA #26

Stony Mt. Woodrat Complex

COUNTY(IES)

Dauphin, Lebanon

APPROX. SIZE

84,480

acres

OWNERSHIP

Public (Federal, State), Private

REASON FOR SELECTION

- Supports significant populations of species or subspecies with specific habitat requirements
- Contains a rare, threatened, or unique habitat type important to mammals
- Sustains a confirmed viable local population of a Species of Greatest Conservation Need and the species or subspecies regularly occurs at the site during one or more seasons

DESCRIPTION

Stony Mt. is located approximately 5 miles north of Harrisburg and includes portions of three counties. This rugged terrain is mountainous and covered by deciduous and mixed forests, and includes extensive rocky areas favored by Allegheny woodrats. This IMA includes SGLs 210, 211, 229, and 264.

MAMMAL NOTES

A number of Allegheny woodrat sites are incorporated within this IMA (e.g., Ft. Indiantown Gap, near Stony Valley). It also includes a portion of range of the Kittatinny red-back vole (*Clethrionomys gapperi rupicola*), a subspecies with a restricted distribution in the state.

CONSERVATION NOTES

A comprehensive “Bioblitz” occurred at this site in 1999, resulting in an extensive catalog of resident species. Reptiles of interest include the timber rattlesnake and northern fence lizard. The area supports significant populations of forest interior bird species and SGL 210 has been designated an IBA (St. Anthony’s Wilderness, #43). A portion of this IMA has been proposed as a conservation area for the Allegheny woodrat by PGC. Threats to the habitat include acid mine drainage.

